

SENATE NO. 1702

AN ACT AN ACT LIMITING PROPOSITION 2 1/2 OVERRIDE ELECTIONS AND ALLOWING AN UNDERRIDE IN ALL COMMUNITIES

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled,
And by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 21C of Chapter 59 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking Section (h) and inserting in place thereof the following:-
3 (h) In a city or town, if a majority of the local appropriating authority, or the people having
4 collected a number of signatures of registered voters equal to 10% of a city or town's registered
5 voters shall so require, there shall be a question placed on the ballot at a regular or special
6 election as to whether said city or town should be required to assess taxes by a specified amount
7 below that amount allowed pursuant to this section. The question submitted to the voters shall
8 be worded as follows:-
9 "Shall the (city/town) of _____ be required to reduce the amount of real estate and personal
10 property taxes to be assessed for the fiscal year beginning July first, two thousand and _____ by
11 an amount equal to \$_____"

12 YES

NO

13 Said question shall be deemed approved if a majority of the persons voting thereon shall vote
14 "yes."

15 SECTION 2. Section 21C of Chapter 59 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2002
16 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new
17 subsection:-

18 (o) The local appropriating authority of any city or town may not seek voter approval at a
19 regular or special election to assess taxes in excess of the amount allowed pursuant to this
20 section unless at least twelve months have passed since that last local or state election at which
21 such a question was placed on the local ballot. Local voters using the initiative process in
22 section (h) shall not seek voter approval to reduce taxes until twelve months have passed since
23 the last such question appeared on the local ballot, unless an override vote is scheduled during
24 this twelve month period.